Maurice Hinchey NEWS

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THREE ULSTER COUNTY SITES RECEIVE MUSEUM GRANTS

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS) has awarded grants for general operating support to three organizations in Ulster County. Mohonk Preserve, Inc. will receive $112,500, Hudson River Maritime Museum will receive $37,652, and D & H Canal Historical Society will receive $22,741.

"The Hudson Valley is replete with unique historical sites that really are national treasures," said Hinchey. "These three sites in particular are deserving of federal support."

Mohonk Preserve will use its grant to expand visitor services, increase fundraising efforts and volunteer support, and upgrade and standardize its computer technology. IMLS funding will also support existing staff positions in Communications and Development and enable the Preserve to hire a new Information Technology Coordinator.

Glenn Hoagland, Executive Director of Mohonk Preserve, said, "We are delighted by this federal recognition of our efforts to accommodate 150,000 visitors a year while protecting this fragile resource for the generations to come. IMLS support will help us to better serve our visitors and engage their help in protecting this National Landmark landscape."

The IMLS grant will allow the D & H Canal Historical Society to increase its hours of operation. Currently the museum is from June to October and only on weekends in September and October.

D & H Canal's Gretchen Reid, said "This federal support is critical to our goal of making the museum accessible to more visitors."

The Hudson River Maritime Museum will also be using its grant to offset some of its general operating expenses. It is the only museum in New York State exclusively preserving the maritime history of the Hudson River, its tributaries, and the industries that developed around it.